

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1 and a new Fig. 4. The Replacement sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1. The New Sheet includes Fig. 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet; and New Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as currently amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-6, 8-25, and 27-36 are currently active. Claims 1 and 20 have been amended by the current amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a); Claims 1, 9, 13-17, 20, 28, and 32-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by “Applicants’ admitted prior art (Admission)” in view of Japanese published application 11-095477 to Yuasa; Claims 2, 5, 21, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of Takeda et al.; Claims 4, 8, 23, and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of Kondo et al.; Claims 6 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of Enomoto et al.; Claims 10, 11, 29, and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of Tanigawa et al.; Claims 12 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of Eto; Claims 18 and 36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of Taniguchi; and Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yuasa in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,912,100 to Aoki et al.

Claims 3, 7, 22, and 26 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. In view of the indication of allowability, Applicants’ have amended claims 1 and 20 to recite the features of claims 3 and 22, respectfully.


Regarding the objection to the drawings, Applicants have amended Fig. 1 to illustrate “stirring roller 13.” As discussed in the paragraph bridging pages 20 and 21 of the

Specification, the means for stirring can be by way of non-limiting examples a stirrer configured to charge the toner by friction stirring or a rotatable magnetic roller. Regarding the binder resin, wax, circularity, and the dispersion diameter of the wax features of the claims, Applicants have added a new Fig. 4 showing a representation of those features. Regarding circularity, Applicants point the Examiner's attention to the paragraph bridging pages 41 and 42 of the specification. No further objection on this basis is therefore anticipated.

Consequently, no further issues are believed to be outstanding, and the current application is believed to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

W. Todd Baker
Registration No. 45,265

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